

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HERMOS 00038 280047Z

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ACTION SCSE-00

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UNCLAS HERMOSILLO 0038

DEPT FOR SCA/SCS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : CASC MX (DAVIS, BLAKE AND HUNT, FREDERICK)

SUBJECT : W/W INJURIES TO TWO U.S. PRISONERS IN PENITENTIARY
AT SALTILLO, COAHUILA

REF: STATE 042993; MONTERREY 0132 & 0134

1. ACCORDING TO LIC. HERNANDEZ, DIRECTOR PENAL SYSTEM FOR SONORA, HERMOSILLO, FEDERAL PRISONERS MAY BE TRANSFERRED FROM ONE STATE PRISON TO ANOTHER STATE PRISON ONLY IF ALL CONDITIONS SET FORTH BELOW ARE MET:

A) PRISONER IS UNDER JURISDICTION OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR HAVING COMMITTED A FEDERAL CRIME.

B) ALL LEGAL PROCESSES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED (I.E., HAS BEEN SENTENCED, AND ANY APPEALS EXHAUSTED SO THAT THERE IS NO FURTHER RECOURSE WITHIN THE STATE).

C) THE STATE TO WHICH THE PRISONER WISHES TO BE TRANSFERRED AGREES TO ACCEPT HIM.

2. SALTILLO PROBLEM REMINDS US OF INCIDENT HERE ABOUT 3 YEARS AGO WHEN GROUP MEXICAN PRISONERS, ALSO INVOLVED WITH NARCOTICS TRAFFIC WITHIN HERMOSILLO PRISON, BEAT UP A NUMBER OF AMERICAN PRISONERS. BECAUSE THESE MEXICANS WERE CONSTANT
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PAGE 02 HERMOS 00038 280047Z

TROUBLEMAKERS AND HARDENED CRIMINALS, DIRECTOR HERMOSILLO

PENITENTIARY ARRANGED TO HAVE THEM TRANSFERRED TO A FEDERAL FACILITY "LAS ISLAS TRES MARIAS" SITUATED SOME DISTANCE OFF SHORE OF STATE OF NAYARIT. PERHAPS SUGGESTION COULD BE MADE THAT THE 4 MEXICAN CULPRITS IN SALTILLO BE SIMILARLY TRANSFERRED.

3. IN OUR VIEW, THE IDEA TO TRANSFER THE SALTILLO AMERICANS TO HERMOSILLO WOULD NOT NECESSARILY SOLVE THE PROBLEM NOR REDUCE THE LIKELIHOOD OF SIMILAR INCIDENTS NOT HAPPENING AGAIN. IDEA MAY ALSO BE HARD TO SELL TO SONORA AUTHORITIES. NARCOTICS TRAFFIC WITHIN PRISONS IS COUNTRY-WIDE (THIS IS WHY MAIL IS CENSORED, AT TIMES, OUTSIDE FOOD PROHIBITED FROM ENTRY, AND SHAKE-DOWNS OCCUR FROM TIME TO TIME TO DETECT BOTH NARCOTICS AND WEAPONS SMUGGLED IN). GIVEN FACT THAT JUST ABOUT YEAR AGO, RIOTS AND FIRES BROKE OUT IN HERMOSILLO'S OLD PENITENTIARY RESULTING IN LOSS OF LIFE TO 7 MEXICAN PRISONERS AND CHARGES OF HOMICIDE AGAINST 4 AMERICAN PRISONERS WHO WERE ACCUSED OF STARTING RIOT AND FIRES, PERSONAL OR PHYSICAL SAFETY FEATURES HERE DO NOT APPEAR TO BE ANY BETTER THAN ELSEWHERE IN MEXICO.
STELLMACHER

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